

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BANGKO 20539 201232Z

53

ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 DPW-01 SCS-03 SCA-01

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05

PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 /086 W

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R 201203Z JUL 76

FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1009

INFO AMCONGEN HONG KONG

USMISSION GENEVA

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

COMMANDER JCRC NAS BARBERS POINT HAWAII

C O N F I D E N T I A L BANGKOK 20539

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: CASC VS ICRC

SUBJ: AMERICANS IN VIET-NAM: VISIT OF ICRC REPRESENTATIVE

1. RENE BAERISWYL, MEMBER OF ICRC STAFF WHO RECENTLY DEPARTED SAIGON AFTER FOURTEEN MONTHS ASSIGNED TO THAT ORGANIZATION'S OFFICE THERE, VISITED EMBASSY JUL 14. HE CARRIED WITH HIM INFORMATION AND COPIES OF SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS ON FOUR AMCIT PRINCIPALS (POSNER, POLLARD, BENNETT, AND RIOS) AND THEIR VIETNAMESE RELATIVES, WHICH CONSULATE WILL EXAMINE FOR POSSIBLE ACTION.

2. BAERISWYL NOTED SEVERAL POINTS OF INTEREST. FIRST, HE SAID THAT AMCIT WILLIAM SMITH HAD ALSO BEEN INCLUDED IN GROUP OF AMERICANS WHICH FAILED TO DEPART SAIGON JUL 9. IT WOULD HAVE MADE TOTAL OF TEN AMERICANS TO DEPART THAT DAY.

3. SECOND, BAERISWYL ASKED WHAT WORD WE HAD ON ARLO GAY. TOLD THAT WE LAST HEARD HE HAD BEEN CAPTURED IN THE DELTA AND WAS PRESUMABLY IN PRISON THERE OR IN SAIGON, BAERISWYL SAID THERE ARE STRONG INDICATIONS SUGGESTING
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 BANGKO 20539 201232Z

THAT HE HAS BEEN TAKEN TO THE NORTH. FURTHER

QUESTIONING DID NOT ELICIT ANY ADDITIONAL INFORMATION.

4. BAERISWYL SAID HE FOUND OUR LIST OF AMERICANS AND DEPENDENTS QUITE INCOMPLETE. FOR EXAMPLE, HE NOTED THAT ICRC OFFICE IN SAIGON HAS ON FILE SOME EIGHTY CASES OF VIETNAMESE WIVES OF AMERICAN CITIZENS. HE ASKED WHETHER USG OF AMERICAN RED CROSS HAVE EVER REQUESTED ICRC GENEVA TO PROVIDE THEM ITS LISTS OF THE VARIOUS CATEGORIES OF U.S.-RELATED PERSONS (E.G., AMCITS, VIETNAMESE DEPENDENT WIVES, VIETNAMESE DEPENDENT CHILDREN), SINCE HIS OFFICE IN SAIGON HAS NEVER RECEIVED SUCH A REQUEST. EMBOFF REPLIED THAT HE THOUGHT WE HAD ASKED ICRC FOR THIS INFORMATION EVER SINCE THE FALL BUT WOULD PASS HIS COMMENT ON TO WASHINGTON.

5. SOURCE ALSO SAID HE HAS NEVER HEARD OF THE NAMES JAMES MOSS, WHICH APPEARS ON OUR LIST. DOES DEPARTMENT HAVE ANY FURTHER INFORMATION ON HIM?

6. BAERISWYL SAID HE AGREED WITH VIEW THAT VIETNAMESE WANT NOW TO PUSH ALL FOREIGNERS OUT OF SAIGON, TAKING EVERY LAST PIASTER FROM THEM IN THE PROCESS.

7. HE SHOULD BE IN GENEVA BY BEGINNING NEXT WEEK, AT WHICH TIME U.S. MISSION MAY WISH TO DEBRIEF HIM MORE FULLY. HE WAS HESITANT DURING BANGKOK VISIT TO SAY TOO MUCH SINCE HE HAD NOT YET REPORTED TO HIS HOME OFFICE. HIS DEPARTURE FROM SAIGON WILL LEAVE TWO ICRC PERSONNEL THERE WHITEHOUSE

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